



Next Meeting

Sunday 11th May

Meet at;

10am at the Fridays Picnic area, Durdiwarrah Rd

Activities;

Burchell Trail track definition between Durdiwarrah and Lease Rd.

What to bring;

Gloves, lunch, drinking water, pruning and weed removal implements, tales of times past and of course those all important qualities.....
And your Mum for Mothers Day.....

Next Month

Deakin University – Collecting soil samples for *Phytophthora cinnamomi* monitoring

NB; to be held on the 3rd Sunday, 15th June, due to public holiday

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Up Coming Events

July; Deakin University – Setting up *Phytophthora* rate of spread in monitoring sites

August; Mark Urquhart (Ranger in Charge BRNP) – Geology of the Brisbane Ranges

Last Time We Met

Colin Cook

VNPA NatureWatch – *Phytophthora cinnamomi* (PC) monitoring with Caitlin

On the 13th April we met at the Stony Creek picnic area. The weather was in two minds (or three) as to what it was going to do, with black clouds skirting us as we went over the activity for the day with Caitlin from NatureWatch.

After being organised into as few cars as possible, we headed off up Switch Road to the monitoring site. The first thing we had to do was find the wooden stakes which had marked out Gretna Weste's original site; this was more difficult than it seems, as they had all been burnt by the bushfire. Fortunately nature doesn't produce too many trees that are square shaped, so we were able to distinguish the stakes from the "natural" burnt bits.

We then got down to the task of measuring out four plots (8m on a side) and marking them with steel posts. Hopefully these will last at least as long as Gretna's wooden stakes. Because we were re-plotting an originally monitored area, we didn't need the frisbee random plot designation device (you had to be there).

Once all the plots were set up, we began the task of measuring the location, height, radius and health of each *Xanthorrhoea* plant in the plot area. Soil samples were also taken below some unhealthy looking plants and these will be tested for the presence of PC. Plots were GPSed and photographed from all angles to retain a permanent record of where they are and what they looked like.

In the coming years, these plots will be remeasured and the progress of PC and the health of the *Xanthorrhoeas* determined. Hope to see you there in the future.

Now if I nod my head, you hit it!



Vice President

Colin Cook
Colin.Cook@dpi.vic.gov.au Ph 5286 1252

Secretary

Helena Lindorff
hlindorff@people.net.au

Newsletter

Judy Locke
jlocke@parks.vic.gov.au Ph 5366 0052

PV Community Grant Update

25 Year Anniversary grant

Last year the FoBR were awarded \$5000 in recognition of their 25 years contribution to park management in the Brisbane Ranges National Park and Steiglitz Historic Park.

A portion of the funds was spent on the celebratory party at Werribee Zoo & Werribee Park; the remaining funds to be expended on the production of a pocket sized colour brochure for the Burchell Trail.

The brochure will consist of a map with track notes such as degree of difficulty, terrain, flora & fauna, geology and cultural history.

Members who wish to volunteer some time to assist with the field work and/or design and production of the brochure please contact Helena Lindorff (hlindorff@people.net.au) or Peter Box (pbox@parks.vic.gov.au) for more information.

"In and Around the Park"

Anakie Community Depot

As most of you are aware, the plant nursery has not been operational for 2 years due to water restrictions. The Anakie Tree Growing group (ATPG) were successful in obtaining a PV community grant to purchase a rainwater tank.

Both the FoBR and the ATPG have provided additional funds to install the tank and purchase a small electric pump. The tank will be located near the office building allowing for easy access to nursery area.

Hopefully in the not too distant future we may start plant propagation again, once we receive that much needed rainfall to fill the tank.

Housekeeping

NOW DUE

Membership Fees (inc GST)

Family; \$22.00

Individual; \$11.00

Please forward to;
Friends of Brisbane Ranges Inc
C/- Post Office
Anakie Vic 3221

FoBR Web site:

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fobr/>

FoBR photos;

<http://picasaweb.google.com.au/brisbane.ranges>

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Plant Matters

Cathy Powers



Dipodium sp.aff.revolutum

This greenhood orchid was found above our place in the Brisbane Ranges last week.

Flowering plant lacks the basal rosette. It can grow to 25cm with a single large white and green striped flower. Usually flowers from March to July (hence the common name - Large Autumn Greenhood).

Interesting that there is a preponderance of non-flowering plants in large colonies but we found a group of seventeen flowering plants - zero rosettes. They were growing out of the rocky, hard, seemingly uninhabitable soil (not much of that either).

NatureWatch day.....



Lance looking for those elusive charcoal pegs